

# REAFFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION FROM THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES (SACSCOC)

## **OVERVIEW FOR DCCCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Presented by: Don Perry, Executive Director, Compliance*



# Goals of Work Session

- Understanding the steps involved in the reaffirmation process
- Understanding the role of the institution's board in the reaffirmation process
- Understanding the requirements of each of the sections in the *Principles of Accreditation*
- Understanding the possible outcomes



# Steps in the Reaffirmation Process

- The institution develops responses and provides evidence of compliance for the Compliance Certification document covering 95 individual Principles
- An Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee Reviews the Compliance Certification & issues a report
- The Institutional can provide a response to the findings via a Focused Report
- The On-Site Reaffirmation Committee reviews the QEP, assesses outstanding compliance problems; conducts interviews; and issues its Report
- Action by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees



# Reaffirmation for DCCCD Colleges

We are rather unique along with Alamo Community College District in that “DCCCD” as a “district” **is not accredited.**

Each individual college is **separately accredited.**

All seven colleges are on the same 10 year cycle for reaffirmation.



# Reaffirmation Process Timeline

Spring & Summer 2010

Development of district level responses & identification of evidence of compliance for each college to use in its completion of the Compliance Certification document.

Fall 2010

Each college began its internal process for developing responses and identification of evidence for compliance.



# Reaffirmation Process Timeline

January 31, 2011

SACSCOC staff provided an orientation for institutional leadership teams in Atlanta, Ga.

March 15, 2012

Compliance Certification due

May 8 – 11, 2012

Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee Review in Atlanta, Ga.



# Reaffirmation Process Timeline

6 Weeks Prior to On-Site Review

Focused Report & Quality Enhancement Plan

On-Site Visits

Mountain View College > Sept. 25-27

Brookhaven College > Oct. 9 – 11

Cedar Valley College > Oct. 16 – 18

Eastfield College > Oct. 16 – 18

El Centro College > Oct. 23 – 25

North Lake College > Oct. 29 – Nov. 01

Richland College > Nov. 13 – 15

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# Reaffirmation Process Timeline

June 18 – 20, 2013

Review and Vote by SACSCOC Board of Trustees

Possible Action:

1. Reaffirmation – no further action
2. Reaffirmation – Annual Monitoring Report
3. Denial – continued accreditation with 1 year Warning followed by Probation 2<sup>nd</sup> year if non-compliance issue is not resolved
4. Removal of Membership – Appealable

December 2013 - SACSCOC Annual Meeting

Official announcement of Reaffirmation status

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Dallas County  
Community College District

**SMART STARTS HERE.**



# *Principles of Accreditation*

- The requirements and standards which institutions must meet to become members and remain members
- Developed by committees or task forces consisting of representatives of member institutions
- Can be changed only by vote of College Delegate Assembly at annual meeting



# ***Principles of Accreditation***

- ▶ Section 1 – Principle of Integrity
- ▶ Section 2 – Core Requirements (CR)
  - Governance, Administrative Structure, Mission, Curriculum, Learning Resources, Student Support Services, Financial and Physical Resources, Faculty, Evaluation and Planning, Quality Enhancement Plan
- ▶ Section 3 – Comprehensive Standards (CS)
  - Same as above but in further detail
- ▶ Section 4 – Federal Requirements (FR)
  - Student achievement, complaints, publication of policies, student authentication, credit hour, state authorization

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# Board Status/Structure

***Is the legal body with authority over institution.***

***Minimum of five members.***

***Not controlled by a minority of board members or by organizations/interests separate from it. (CR 2.2)***



# Role of the Institution's Board

- ***Policy-making body***
- ***Hire, Evaluate and, when necessary, Fire the CEO***



# Role of the Board

## ***Select and evaluate the CEO***

*[The governing board is responsible for the selection and the periodic evaluation of the chief executive officer]. (CS 3.2.1)*



# Role of the Institution's Board

## ***Complementary but separate duties***

*[Clear and appropriate distinction, in writing & in practice, between policy-making function of board & responsibility of administration & faculty to implement policy]. (CS 3.2.6)*



# Role of the Board

## ***Protect institution from undue influence***

*[Maintain freedom from undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies and protects the institution from such influence]. (CS 3.2.4)*



# Role of the Board

## ***Conflict of interest***

*[Presiding officer of the board & a majority of the other voting members of the board are free of any contractual, employment, or personal or familial financial interest in the institution]. (CS 2.2)*





# Role of the Board

## ***Board member dismissal***

*[Policy whereby board members can be dismissed only for appropriate reasons and by a fair process]. (CS 3.2.5)*



# Role of the Board

***Ensuring adequate financial resources and stability*** (CR 2.2 ; CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.1)

***Provide appropriate financial statements*** (CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.3; FR 4.7)



# Role of the Board

## ***Responsibility & authority of faculty***

*[Policies on the responsibility and authority of faculty in governance and academic matters]. (CR2.2 & CS 3.7.5)*



# Role of the Board

## ***Academic freedom***

*[Ensures adequate procedures for safeguarding and protecting academic freedom]. (CS 3.7.4)*

